



AMERICAN OBSERVER

News and Issues—With Pros and Cons

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

MAY 14, 1956

African Lands Are Wakening

Demand for Self-rule Spreads as Natives of Continent Adopt Western Ways

FROM Cairo to Capetown, the continent of Africa is astir these days. Reading a single copy of a large U. S. newspaper, one may find such items as the following:

Independence nears for Gold Coast. . . . Disorders spread in Algeria. . . . Angola opens first textile factory. . . . Union of South Africa tightens restrictions on natives. . . . Terrorist activities in Kenya decline. . . . Industry booms in Belgian Congo.

Africa increasingly makes the headlines. Political, social, and economic problems and conflicts which have long been present in more developed regions of the world are now being felt in Africa. As time goes on, this vast region lying across the equator south of Europe is certain to receive more and more attention.

Of what does Africa consist?

The second largest continent (next to Asia), it could hold almost 4 nations the size of ours. At its widest point, it is almost equal to the distance from New York City to Hawaii. North to south, this sprawling land mass is as long as the distance from Minneapolis to northern Chile in South America.

To many people, Africa means only dense jungles with elephants, gorillas, and other animals commonly seen in zoos. It is quite true that Africa does have jungles, but they are re-

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DRAWN FOR AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON

Dispute Over Business Mergers

Industrial Firms Are Combining at Rapid Rate, and Observers Wonder Whether This Trend Is Beneficial or Harmful to the Nation's Economy

BUSINESS mergers play an important role in American economic life today. Newspapers tell of case after case in which 2 or more companies combine and become a single firm. Sometimes the concerns that unite with one another have been active in completely different lines of work.

Government officials report that 1955 was the biggest year for business mergers in a quarter of a century. The fields of mining and manufacturing saw at least 525 such unions, while in banking there were about 250. More than 3,000 independent firms have passed from the scene as a result of

mergers since 1951, a congressman recently pointed out.

There is much controversy as to how this trend toward combining business concerns will, in the long run, affect our national economy. Quite a few observers fear that we are letting too much economic power become concentrated in too few hands. They contend that mergers, if allowed to continue as at present, will weaken the competitive system under which American business has grown and flourished.

Other observers argue that the merger trend, in general, is making U.S. business and industry more efficient. They don't think the number of exist-

ing firms is being reduced sharply enough to endanger our system of competitive enterprise.

Congress, for some time now, has been carefully studying the entire problem of business mergers. The House of Representatives recently passed a bill that would step up our federal government's power to regulate the combining of companies. As we go to press, the Senate hasn't yet acted on this measure.

Business firms merge for various reasons. Sometimes a prosperous company needs additional factory space, machinery, warehouses, or stores, and will buy out another concern that owns such facilities. Possibly a manufacturer will buy a chain of retail stores, through which to sell his product. Or, on the other hand, he may purchase a mine that yields raw materials which he needs.

Perhaps a company is turning out some product for which there is an unsteady or seasonal demand. This firm may buy various other concerns and branch out into new lines so as to have a more consistent income.

Sometimes one firm will buy another so as to take over a valuable patent, acquire a good business location, or even obtain certain skilled employees or company officials.

When the owner of a shop or store decides to retire, he may sell out to some other concern that has been looking for a chance to expand its operations.

Finally, there are complicated legal provisions which make it possible for certain companies to achieve big income-tax savings by uniting with other firms. Though the federal government endeavors to prevent companies from combining *solely* to dodge taxes, it is clear that income-tax advantages

HERE AND ABROAD - - - PEOPLE, PLACES, AND EVENTS

MOSCOW VISIT

President Tito of Yugoslavia plans to visit Moscow in June. It will be his first trip to the Soviet Union since he broke away from Moscow's influence in 1948. Tito will be returning a visit made to his country last spring by Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin and Communist Party chief Nikita Khrushchev.

NEW FACTORIES

Twenty new factories began operating last week in Puerto Rico as part of a drive to get a better balance between industry and agriculture in this island nation. Since 1947, 400 plants have been opened, and plans are going forward to double this number in the years just ahead. Previous to this campaign, Puerto Rico was largely a farming country, with very few factories.

WORLD POPULATION

The United Nations estimates that the world's population reached a total

of almost 2 2/3 billions in 1954, the latest year for which estimates are available. China's 583,000,000 people make it the most populous nation, followed by India, the Soviet Union, and the United States.

TRADE WITH RUSSIA

Our government has made it easier for exporters to ship nonstrategic goods to the Soviet Union and its European satellite nations. A new order lists more than 700 items that may be sent to these communist countries without having to obtain a special license for each shipment. The new procedure, however, does not relax the ban on trade with Red China, North Korea, and other communist areas in the Far East.

SOUTH POLE FLIGHT

Scandinavian Airlines, which operates regular flights over the North Pole, plans to make the first commercial flight over the South Pole late this year. The company will

fly passengers from Europe to the Olympic Games in Melbourne, Australia, by way of the South Pole.

PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Great Smoky Mountains National Park, a vast wilderness in North Carolina and Tennessee, is scheduled for a program of improvement and development costing about \$10,000,000. The area, which is the most heavily visited of all national parks, will be given larger campgrounds, new museums, and better roads and trails.

ATOMIC PLANE

The Air Force is moving closer to construction of an atomic-powered aircraft. Two companies will begin work soon on the plane's body, and the Air Force will build a nuclear reactor to test parts for the plane.

Experts predict that atomic airplanes will not look much different from other aircraft. They expect to develop bombers first, with other types of military planes to follow.

(Concluded on page 2)

Mergers Studied

(Concluded from page 1)

are an important factor in many business mergers.

In addition to the Internal Revenue Service, which seeks to make sure that mergers are handled in accordance with our nation's tax laws, there are 2 other U. S. agencies especially concerned with merger problems. They are the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), and the Antitrust Division in the Department of Justice. Acting under various antitrust laws, these organizations seek to prevent or break up monopolistic business "trusts" and combinations—those which choke out competition or threaten to do so.

This is a very complex field of law, and usually it takes a long time to determine whether a company is really involved in monopolistic practices.

Some years ago, federal authorities went to court against the huge Du Pont chemical company. The Justice Department charged that this firm and the Du Pont family exercised too much influence over certain other big corporations in which they held stock. Federal officers wanted to force the Du Pont company and family to get rid of this stock. Du Pont denied the charges, and the case is not yet settled.

As to the proposed law which Congress is now considering: It would help the Justice Department and the FTC to keep track of proposed combinations and mergers. If 2 or more large corporations intended to unite, they would have to give both agencies 90 days' notice before doing so.

Government officials would then be in a position to investigate in advance, and go to court in an effort to stop the merger if it appeared harmful and illegal. (At present, Uncle Sam has no regular, systematic way of learning about mergers that are being planned.)

Many people argue that the 90-day-notice rule would constitute unwarranted interference with the activities of private business. Others think the proposed measure would benefit our economy as a whole, and that it is genuinely needed.

Election-year politics is responsible for part of the interest now being shown in legislation to control mergers. Both the Democrats and the Republicans want to demonstrate that they oppose harmful monopolies.

Democrats have long accused the GOP of being partial toward big business, and of not trying vigorously to enforce the nation's antitrust and anti-monopoly laws. Republicans reply that



Harlow Curtice
General Motors Corporation



Henry Ford II
Ford Motor Company



L. L. Colbert
Chrysler Corporation

PRESIDENTS OF THE "BIG THREE" in the auto industry. Their companies make 95 per cent of all U. S. cars.

federal action against monopolies has been stepped up a great deal since the present administration took office. Also, they point out that Eisenhower has asked Congress for increased amounts of money to use in enforcing antitrust laws.

The subject of big business and monopoly is a complicated one to discuss and consider. Most people agree that the large corporations fill a definite need in our economy—that bigness in itself is not harmful. But it is also widely felt that we should prevent business concerns from becoming so vast and powerful as to gain a strangle hold on some particular section of the nation's economic life.

Therefore, where is the line to be drawn? Is the present wave of business mergers doing more harm than good? Is it resulting in the growth of industrial concerns that are too large? Or is the current trend bringing greater efficiency and giving us a sounder economic system?

Conflicting Views

People who are alarmed about the present mergers answer these questions as follows:

"The trend, as a whole, is dangerous. Small business is being pushed further into the background. Small businessmen's profits are declining, while those of the big corporations are growing.

"The general result of today's mergers is to concentrate the real control of American business and industry in fewer hands. In many industries, the amount of healthy and vigorous competition is being seriously reduced. As more and more small companies are swallowed by larger ones, it becomes increasingly difficult for the remaining small businesses to survive.

"If the economic power of our big

corporations keeps growing, the general public is likely to demand increasingly strict government regulation of those concerns. Thus, mergers can lead to oppressive governmental control over private business."

Opponents of such viewpoints give the following reply:

"It is very misleading to say that mergers are going on at such a rate as to choke out and destroy small business. There still remain thousands upon thousands of small firms that are thriving and will continue to prosper.

"Most mergers that have occurred lately are beneficial—not harmful.

Such combinations often step up competition within an industry, rather than reduce it. Some of the 'small' auto manufacturers, by uniting, have put themselves in a stronger position to compete with the industry's giants.

"Large corporations can perform many services that small firms are in no position to render. Such corporations as Du Pont, for example, have been able to spend vast sums of money on research—thereby developing miraculous new products."

These are among the arguments put forth in connection with the business mergers that have been occurring lately. Now let's look at some of the actual corporations involved.

An unusual merger occurred last summer, when the General Tire and Rubber Company bought a motion picture firm—RKO Radio Pictures—for \$25,000,000. General Tire and Rubber is one of the most diversified business concerns in America. It controls the Mutual Broadcasting System plus several TV stations, and it produces a wide range of products including tires, chemicals, engines, and rockets.

A great many combinations have

occurred in the grocery field. George Weston, Ltd., Canada's largest supermarket chain, purchased "a substantial interest" in a big U. S. chain—the National Tea Company of Chicago. This merger created the third largest food-store "empire" in North America.

The General Motors Corporation, which has absorbed a number of other firms, ranked late last year as the largest manufacturing company in the world. In addition to automobiles, it turns out diesel locomotives, refrigerators, military weapons and various other products.

A recent Senate committee report suggested that General Motors should be required to give up some of its activities outside the auto-making field. Critics of the big firm say that it represents too great a concentration of economic power, while its defenders argue that this charge is unjustified.

In any case, so far as American business is concerned, the question of "How big is too big?" will long remain a subject of controversy.

—By TOM MYER

Your Vocabulary

In each sentence below, match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are on page 8, column 4.

1. That country was once ruled by a *despot* (dēs'pōt). (a) king (b) tyrant (c) dictatorship (d) sultan.

2. He was an *arbitrary* (ar'bi-trēr-i) ruler. (a) wise (b) weak (c) absolute (d) unsure.

3. The dictator controlled his people by means of *intimidation* (in-tim-i-dā'shōn). (a) threats (b) loyalty (c) trickery (d) power.

4. The United Nations tries to be *unbiased* (ūn-bi'āst) in handling disputes between member countries. (a) unprejudiced (b) efficient (c) restrained (d) successful.

5. One cannot guess that he is a king by his *demeanor* (dē-mén'r). (a) voice (b) reputation (c) bearing (d) dress.

6. Various countries *construe* (kōn-strōo') Russia's actions in different ways. (a) combat (b) interpret (c) hear about (d) react to.

7. The congressional committee adopted rules to *expedite* (ēks'pē-dit) its investigation. (a) govern (b) make fair (c) change the location of (d) speed up.



Roger M. Blough
United States Steel Corporation



David Sarnoff
Radio Corporation of America



Walter S. Carpenter, Jr.
E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.

THESE PROMINENT EXECUTIVES are chairmen of the boards of 3 important and large industrial concerns

Science News

ONE of the major problems in the development of jet airplanes, rockets, missiles, and atomic power plants is the need for materials that can withstand extremely high temperatures.

The National Bureau of Standards in Washington, D. C., has a laboratory devoted to studying the effect of heat on various materials. Experts test metals and other substances in special furnaces, including a new solar furnace that can produce temperatures up to 7,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

Certain substances have a "high temperature problem" at as low as 200 degrees Fahrenheit, while others can stand temperatures of thousands of degrees. Scientists test the materials in order to learn the effects that heating has upon them. Some expand and crack at high temperatures, while others contract, evaporate, or melt.

Although the melting problem is probably the most serious one, many well-known metals can stand a great deal of heat before they are affected—certainly enough for normal everyday standards. For example, aluminum melts at about 1,220 degrees Fahrenheit, iron at about 2,800 degrees, and tungsten at approximately 6,050 degrees.

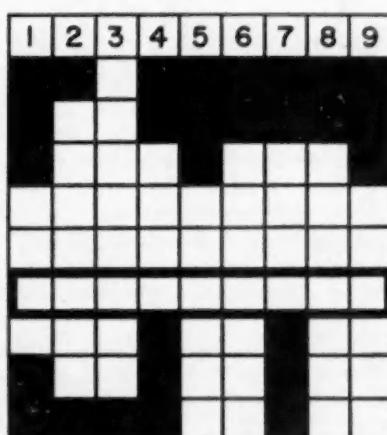
Nevertheless, scientists predict that metals used in missiles of the future will have to withstand heat up to 10,000 degrees Fahrenheit, about equal to the temperature of the sun's surface. They are busy trying to develop combinations of materials that will withstand such high temperatures.

—By VICTOR BLOCK

CURRENT AFFAIRS PUZZLE

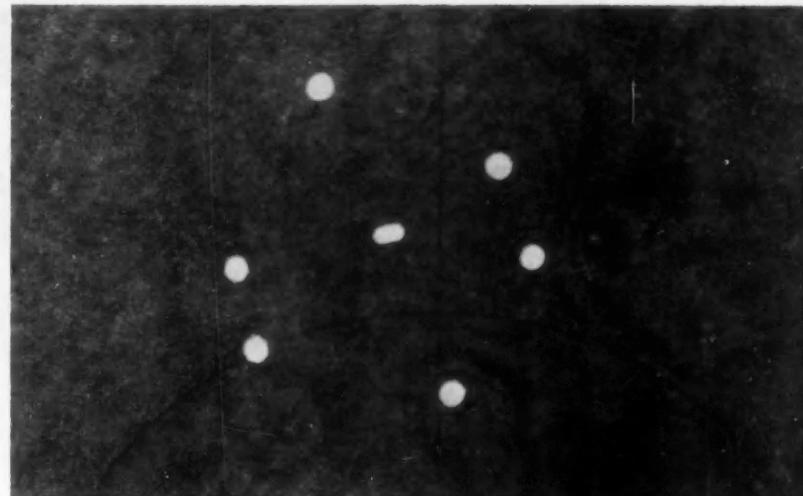
Fill in numbered vertical rows according to descriptions given below. When all are correctly finished, heavy rectangle will spell a famous name.

1. Big African river.
2. The Belgian Congo is an important supplier of _____.
3. Africa mines almost all the world's _____.
4. The continent also mines more than half of the world's _____.
5. We obtain _____ from Liberia.
6. _____ will soon be independent of Britain.
7. Africa is about _____ times larger than the United States.
8. Americans are arguing whether the growing number of business _____ is good or bad for the nation's economy.
9. Desert in Africa.



Last Week

HORIZONTAL: education. VERTICAL: 1. Yemen; 2. Danube; 3. lumber; 4. FCC; 5. Raab; 6. neutral; 7. oil; 8. Morse; 9. Vienna.



"UNIDENTIFIED Flying Objects" is a movie dealing with efforts to find out what has caused mysterious white dots to appear on radar screens. The film also goes into various reports of unusual objects that have been seen in the sky.

Radio-TV-Movies

A NEW film, entitled "Unidentified Flying Objects," goes into detail about the mystery of "flying saucers," and discusses a number of occasions when such objects supposedly were sighted either by individuals or on radar screens.

Much of the material for the movie was, until recently, top secret. Interspersed throughout the film are color motion pictures of unidentified objects in flight that the Air Force and Navy have classified as genuine. People who are intrigued by the mystery of the so-called flying saucers will enjoy the movie.

This year's winner of the Peabody Award for television newscasting is Douglas Edwards. One of the first

radio newsmen to switch exclusively to TV, Edwards moved to the new medium in 1947. Since then, he has helped develop television newscasting to a highly polished operation, and has many news "scoops" to his credit.

Edwards believes in what he calls "the understatement approach" to TV news, letting the pictures tell the story with as little dialogue as possible. He presents his detailed summary of the news each week-day evening over the CBS network.

Television will begin in Sydney and Melbourne, Australia, next November on 2 government-owned stations. The aim is to provide TV service before the Olympic Games begin in Melbourne late that month. —By VICTOR BLOCK

Worth the Effort — By Clay Coss

DO you know how to be a good friend? The answer you give to this question may be of great importance to your happiness.

The number of true friends you have during your lifetime will depend, in large part, upon the way you treat others. If you display consistent loyalty and understanding toward those persons whom you like, many of them will respond in kind. If you don't, they will come to look upon you with suspicion and mistrust.

Lasting friendships are, without question, one of the most satisfying experiences of our lives. They bring pleasures of a quality and quantity that no amount of money can buy.

To be worthy of friendship, however, we must be true friends ourselves. We must judge people by their performance from day to day, not by their individual acts. No one is perfect, and that fact should be remembered. There are times when people whom we ordinarily like a great deal commit acts or say things which irritate us no end.

When this happens, we have several courses open to us: (1) Talk and gossip about these individuals behind their backs; (2) directly tell them that we don't like what they said or did; (3) drop them as friends; (4) overlook the cause of irritation, feeling that it is merely temporary and will automatically correct itself.

The first possibility should be quickly ruled out—it can lead to

no good, and almost always has unhappy consequences.

The second alternative, in some instances, may be an effective way of dealing with the problem.

The third approach should be used only if, after careful thought, we feel that a friend's bad points outweigh his good ones, and that we no longer enjoy our association with him.

In most cases, the fourth policy is probably the wisest one. If we continue to be friendly and don't put the other person on the defensive, the relationship will likely return to normal in a short time.

It often requires patience, tolerance, understanding, and the ability to overcome a wounded pride to get along well with others—even those whose company we enjoy most of the time. Nevertheless, every close friendship we are able to cultivate through the years is worth the effort many times over.

The best way to keep your friends is not to give them away.

—WILSON MIZNER

When friendships are real, they are not glass threads or frost work, but the solidest things we can know.

—R. W. EMERSON

Readers Say—

SEVERAL weeks ago we asked our readers to write us their opinions on whether the minimum voting age should be lowered to 18. In response, we have received a great many letters from all over the nation. Roughly 55 per cent state that the voting age should be lowered to 18, while about 45 per cent disagree with this view.

The arguments of those in favor of a lower voting age may be summarized as follows:

"Young men who serve in the armed forces should have a chance to help choose their leaders. High school students are as well-informed as most adults and are interested in voting, but if they have to wait several years after graduation to cast their first ballot, they will lose this interest."

These are the views most frequently expressed on the other side:

"Not many young people have enough experience to make up their own minds on political issues. They are too easily influenced by what others tell them. Young men have to be only physically mature to serve in the armed forces, but need to be mentally mature before voting."

We wish to thank all our readers who wrote to us on this subject.

★
The United States should relax its restrictions on trade with other countries and increase foreign trade. Then other nations would be more likely to deal with us than with Russia.

DORIS FREDRICKSON,
Valley City, North Dakota

★
It would be dangerous to let other countries send too many goods into the United States. This would weaken the position of our own industry and hurt our entire economy.

JOHN COLE,
Miami, Florida

★
There should be a nation-wide Presidential primary in which every voter could express his choice of candidates. This would give people more of a voice in selecting the men who will participate in the actual election in November. SHIRLEY BOWSER,
Alamogordo, New Mexico

AMERICAN OBSERVER

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The Story of the Week

"Ambassador" Reuther

"This man makes sense. He says what we are thinking." These words, according to news reports, were spoken by a worker in India as he listened to a talk by Walter Reuther, vice president of America's big labor organization—AFL-CIO.

Reuther returned from a good-will trip to India a short time ago. During his 2-week stay there, he gave



WALTER REUTHER, U. S. labor leader who recently visited India

more than 100 talks to workers, students, and other groups in various sections of the country. As his trip came to a close, a leading Indian newspaper commented:

"He (Reuther) has helped renew our faith in American democracy. We . . . think of him as a true voice of America."

Because of his success in helping to improve Indian-American relations, many Americans feel that Reuther should be asked to visit other countries which we would like to have as friends. As of this writing, the labor chief has not announced any plans for additional foreign trips.

Reuther, 48, is the son of a union organizer. He went to work in the auto industry at an early age, but was fired for union activities. After taking high school courses in his spare time, he attended Wayne University where he specialized in labor and industrial problems.

Unable to find a job after leaving college in the 1930's, Reuther went on a 3-year world tour, visiting Russia and many other countries. After returning home, he went back to work in Detroit's auto factories and renewed his efforts to organize the industry.

In 1946, the dynamic labor leader became chief of the United Auto Workers (UAW), then a CIO member. When CIO and AFL merged into one labor group last year, Reuther became the new organization's vice president.

Aviation History

Just 37 years ago next Wednesday, May 16, 1919, 3 U.S. Navy seaplanes left Newfoundland for the first transatlantic flight on record. The planes were bound for the Azores. From there, they were scheduled to fly to Lisbon, Portugal, and then on to England.

As the 3 aircraft approached the Azores, they ran into heavy fog, and 2 of them were forced down. The

third, a Curtiss flying boat with Walter Hinton at the controls, completed the flight to Lisbon and England, making stops along the way. With the stopovers, the trip took more than a week.

Eight years later, on May 29, 1927, Charles Lindbergh made the first non-stop solo flight across the Atlantic. In the monoplane, *Spirit of St. Louis*, he took 33 hours and 39 minutes for the 3,600-mile hop from Roosevelt Field, Long Island, to Le Bourget airport, Paris.

After Lindbergh's flight, aviation progressed rapidly. Pan American Airlines pioneered a passenger service from New York to Lisbon before World War II, using flying boats. The trip took about a day and a half.

Crossing the ocean in today's planes is routine—a comfortable trip, with berths if the traveler wishes to sleep. American and foreign lines offer regular passenger service between American cities and overseas points.

The New York to London trip today takes around 10 or 11 hours. Soon, jet planes will make the trip in about 6 hours.

Israel's Troops

In the course of the school year, we ran 2 maps showing the armed strength of Israel and her Arab neighbors. One of these maps appeared in the September 19 issue, the other was shown in the paper dated April 23.

On the September 19 map, we gave Israel's strength as 250,000 troops, while in April the figure was given as 50,000. The reason for the difference is that the September map showed Israel's standing forces *plus* its reserves, while the April map showed only the country's standing forces.

Israel keeps an estimated 50,000 troops under arms at all times. In addition, it has some 200,000 civilian reserves, who have had military training and can be called upon to serve on a minute's notice.

Because the reserves are made up of trained fighters who can leave their regular jobs and go on duty in an emergency, they are sometimes counted as part of Israel's troop

strength. Actually, though, they are not part of the country's *standing* fighting force.

We regret that this point was not explained in connection with the 2 maps shown.

Tiny Liechtenstein

The rulers of tiny Liechtenstein, Prince Franz Joseph II and his wife, Princess Georgine, are now visiting the United States. Though they are here as tourists, they hope to see President Eisenhower during their 7-week stay in this country.

Liechtenstein has only 62 square miles of territory—about the size of Washington, D. C. It is on the Rhine River, sandwiched between Switzerland and Austria. Most of the country's 15,000 people speak German, but they use Swiss money and have close trading ties with Switzerland.

Despite its small size, Liechtenstein is fairly well known. All over the world, collectors try to keep up with the latest changes in the country's postage stamps. The government changes the stamps often so that it can do a big business selling to collectors.

Time almost seems to be standing still in Liechtenstein. Except for a garage to serve cars driving between Paris and Vienna, the country is much as it was hundreds of years ago. Cattle still plod along the main street of Vaduz, the capital.

Besides raising cattle, the people of Liechtenstein grow wheat and some fruit. There are a few factories which turn out pottery, cotton goods, and leather products. The only valuable mineral in the land is marble.

Report to the UN

The United Nations Security Council is now studying UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold's report on his peace mission to the Middle East. The UN chief recently returned from that troubled corner of the globe after spending nearly a month there in efforts to end fighting between Israel and her Arab neighbors.

During his stay in the Middle East,



DRAWN FOR AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON
LIECHTENSTEIN lies between Switzerland and Austria along the Rhine River in central Europe

Hammarskjold succeeded in securing cease-fire agreements between the 2 camps there. Truce pledges signed by Israel and the Arab countries are the first agreements of this type since an armistice ended Arab-Jewish fighting in 1949.

Later this year, Mr. Hammarskjold plans to return to the Middle East to try for a lasting peace settlement there.

For Better Highways

The biggest road-building program in our history will get under way if a measure now being considered by the U.S. Senate is approved. The House passed the highway bill about 2 weeks ago by a big majority of votes.

The House-approved measure calls for the spending of 51½ billion dollars to improve the entire network of roads that connect the 48 states. The money is to be spent over a 13-year period. Uncle Sam would pay up to 90 per cent of the bill for improving highways, while the states would be asked to pay the rest.

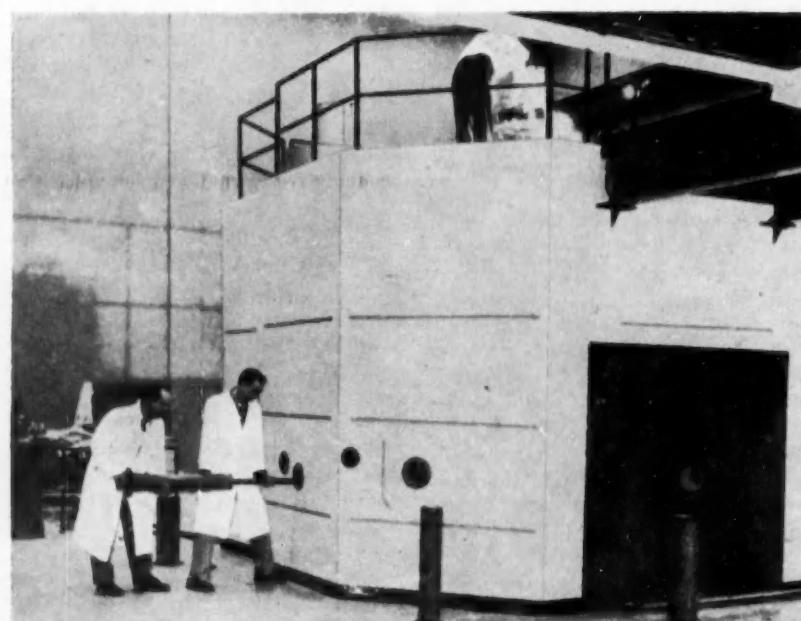
To help raise money for the proposed road-building program, the highway bill calls for additional taxes on gasoline, tires, and other products used by motorists, plus a special tax on trucks. It is estimated that the proposed taxes, along with existing ones, would provide a total of about 38½ billion dollars in revenues during the 13-year highway program.

Armed Forces Day

Next Saturday, May 19, our nation's Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps will be on parade. There will be military parades in many cities, as well as air shows and exhibits of the latest tanks and other fighting equipment at numerous military bases across the country.

If you live in a city which will have a parade, or are close to a base, you may be able to get a first-hand idea of what makes up our fighting forces. If not, you may get a good picture of what our forces are doing from newspaper stories, radio, television, and movie newsreels.

Giving you a glimpse of the defense program that costs so much in taxes is, in fact, a big reason for Armed Forces Day. Another is to demonstrate that the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines really are a team dedicated



NEW ATOMIC FURNACE being made ready for use at Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. It's of the water-boiler type and is said to be explosion-proof. The furnace will be the first of its kind to be privately owned and operated for peacetime research in a thickly populated city.

to a single purpose—the preservation of our freedom.

It is well to remember, on Armed Forces Day, that American troops are on duty in many parts of the globe, and that they are ready to fight if called upon to do so. At the same time, it is to be fervently hoped that our leaders will find ways to preserve peace in the years ahead.

Meanwhile, we must remain strong so that no would-be aggressor will attempt to snuff out the precious freedoms we now enjoy, and for which man has struggled since the beginning of time.

Were They Kidnapped?

In 1954, Nationalist Chinese forces captured a Russian tanker near Taiwan (Formosa). Some of the Soviet seamen on the tanker demanded that they be returned home. Others decided to stay on this side of the Iron Curtain. Among the latter, were 9 Soviet sailors who were admitted to the United States as refugees last fall.

Not long ago, 5 of the 9 seamen suddenly were seen boarding a plane for Russia. They were surrounded by Soviet officials who work for the United Nations.

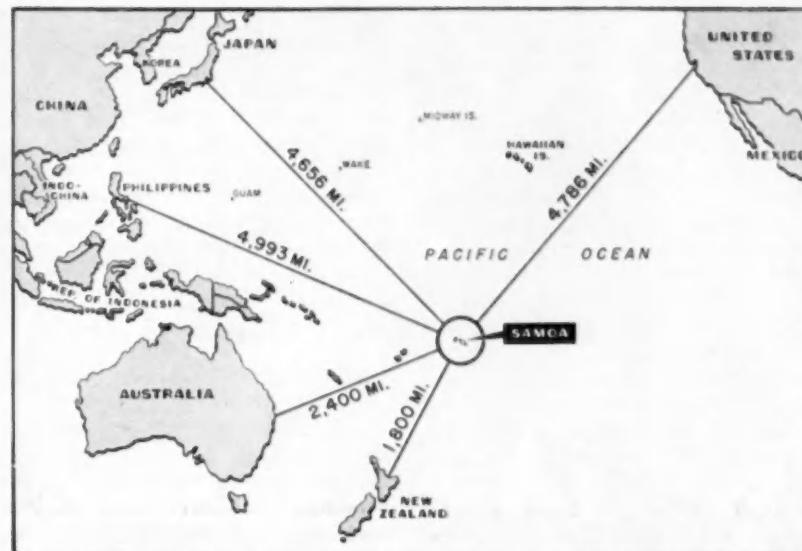
The 4 other sailors, who remained in the United States, charge that their friends were "kidnapped" by Red officials—a charge which Moscow denies. The Russians insist that the seamen left of their own free will.

But because of the mysterious circumstances under which the 5 sailors left the country, a congressional committee and the FBI have been looking into the matter. Investigators have already found evidence that Soviet officials here use every trick in the bag to persuade Iron Curtain refugees to return home. Our government has asked the Reds to stop using "pressure" in their efforts to get escapees to go back to communism.

A Free Samoa?

One of the Pacific lands now seeking independence is Western Samoa, located far out in the Pacific Ocean about 1,800 miles northeast of New Zealand. It is a United Nations territory run by New Zealand.

The Samoan group contains 14 islands which stretch across 350



DRAWN FOR AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON

miles of the South Pacific. The entire territory covers only 1,209 square miles—an area about the size of Rhode Island.

The eastern part of the Samoan Islands belongs to the United States. There the people don't seem to want independence. Their area is supervised by a governor who is appointed by our Secretary of the Interior. They do have a legislature which advises Uncle Sam on legislation, but it does not have the power to make laws. There are about 20,000 residents.

Western Samoa includes most of the land area of the islands—about 1,133 square miles. It is the home of 93,000 people.

According to present plans, self-government will come to Western Samoa in 3 steps: (1) The islanders will elect a parliament with power to make laws. (2) The territory will organize an executive department headed by a council of ministers. (3) A premier will be chosen to preside over the council or cabinet, and to lead the legislature.

Full independence is expected to be achieved in about 5 years.

B-52 Bombers

Military officials agree that we must have the power to hit back hard at would-be aggressors to discourage an enemy attack on us. The giant B-52

jet bomber is regarded as one of our most formidable weapons for retaliating if trouble starts.

How is our B-52 construction program getting along? Not very well, says General Curtis LeMay, head of the Strategic Air Command—the Air Force branch which would have the task of striking immediate counterblows in case of war.

General LeMay recently told a Senate group that only 78 of the giant bombers have been produced thus far, and that 30 of these had to be rejected because of flaws in their construction! This leaves some 48 B-52's which can be used by the Air Force. Russia, by comparison, is believed to have about 100 jet craft comparable to our B-52's.

Air Force Chief of Staff General Nathan Twining points out, though, that we excel the Russians in other types of aircraft. Moreover, President Eisenhower contends that our bases in Europe and Africa place us in a strong position until the production of B-52's picks up.

In going over this year's defense budget, Congress will study these and other views on our air power.

At a Glance

Cuba is getting back to normal again after a brief rebellion which rocked that country a short time ago. The revolt, said to have been led by former President Carlos Prio Socarrás was easily crushed by the troops of President Fulgencio Batista.

Cuba has been living in the shadow of revolutions for some time now. In 1952, Batista staged a revolt and ousted Prio Socarrás as president shortly before new elections were scheduled to be held. Batista has managed to stay in control of the country's government ever since that time.

Saudi Arabia and the entire Middle East are in danger of suffering severe losses from crop-destroying locusts because of the Arab country's growing hatred of Britain. Anti-British feeling in Saudi Arabia has led the Arabs to oust a British locust-control team from the Middle Eastern land. The British team has been doing a good job of reducing the hordes of locusts which have plagued that region for centuries.

Next Week's Articles

Unless unforeseen developments arise, next week's main articles will deal with (1) issues in the Presidential campaign, and (2) the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

SPORTS

Want to become a better baseball player? Boys who do will find "Winning Baseball" a valuable book. The author is Ethan Allan, Yale University diamond coach and a former big leaguer. His book includes dozens of photos of famous big-league stars, demonstrating fielding, throwing, batting, and base running. The newly revised edition of "Winning Baseball" (New York: A. S. Barnes & Co., \$3) is now on sale at book stores.

★

Who will be the outstanding rookie of the year in the big leagues? A number of newcomers are already in the running for that honor.

One of the youngest rookies is 19-year-old Don Drysdale of the Brooklyn Dodgers. The young pitcher had the thrill of winning his first big-league game early this season. Only 2 years ago he was pitching high-school ball.

In second baseman Charley Neal, the Dodgers have another promising newcomer. Outfielder Frank Robinson has been helping the Cincinnati Redlegs get off to a fast start. Pittsburgh has 2 good prospects in Danny Kravitz, catcher, and Lee Walls, outfielder.

No less than 3 rookie shortstops started the season for American League teams—Don Buddin of the Boston Red Sox, Jerry Lumpe of the New York Yankees, and Luis Aparicio of the Chicago White Sox. Lumpe was later sent to the minors.

Two outfielders who can hit a long ball are Tito Francona of the Baltimore Orioles and Rocky Colavito of the Cleveland Indians.

Dave Sisler of the Boston Red Sox and Connie Grob of the Washington Senators are promising pitchers.



DON DRYSDALE, rookie pitcher for the Brooklyn Dodgers

Last year's leading rookies—as named by the nation's baseball writers—were pitcher Herb Score of Cleveland and St. Louis outfielder Bill Virdon.

—By HOWARD SWEET

Pronunciations

Carlos Prio Socarrás—kár'lós pró'só-kár-rás'

Fulgencio Batista—fool-hen'se-o bá-té-s'tá

Kilimanjaro—kil'i-mán-já'rō

Liechtenstein—lik'tén-shtin

Nikita Khrushchev—nyi-ké'tuh krósh-chawf

Nikolai Bulganin—né'kó-lí búgl-gá'nín

Tanganyika—ting-gán-yé'ká

Uganda—yoo-gán'duh

U Nu—oo noō

Vaduz—fa-dóots'

Zambesi—zám-bé'zí

THE LIGHTER SIDE

The President urges students to continue their education. Setting a good example, he himself will go back to Electoral College.

Secretary: Mr. Terry said to tell you he is too busy to talk to you today.

Insurance Agent: Tell him he won't have to say a word.



"Were you the fellows who advertised for a bat boy?"

Dentist: Stop waving your arms and making faces. Why, I haven't even touched your tooth!

Patient: I know you haven't, but you're standing on my corn.

★

"I don't like these photographs at all," said the customer when he saw the proofs. "I look like an ape."

"You should have thought of that," remarked the photographer, "before you had them taken."

★

Bob: You look broken up. What's the matter?

Jim: I wrote home for money for a study lamp.

Bob: So what?

Jim: They sent the lamp.

★

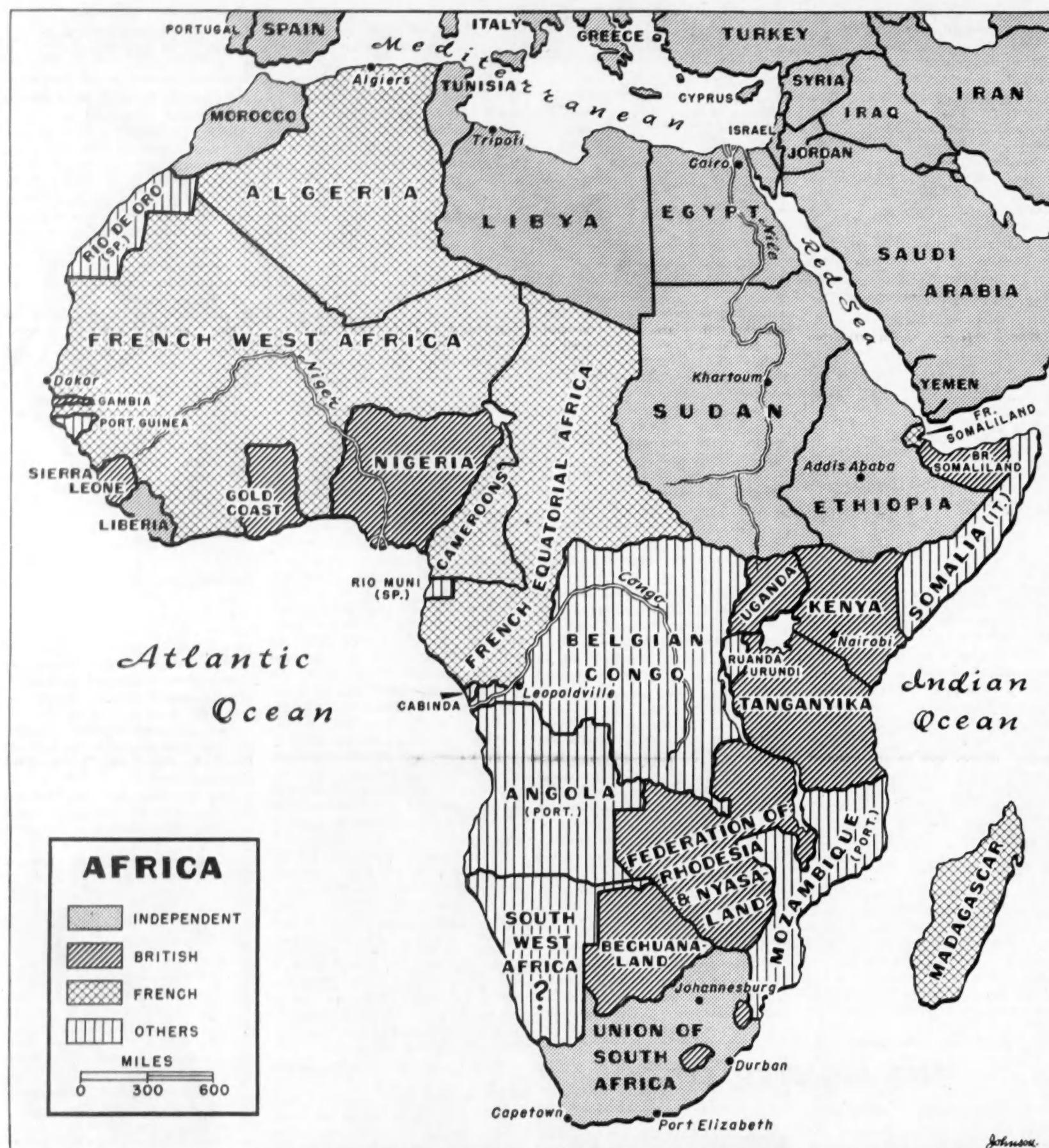
Wife: Didn't you say it was very warm at the baseball game, Henry?

Henry: Yes, dear, I did.

Wife: I don't understand that. This newspaper says the ball park was filled with fans.

★

An envelope-stamping machine is said to do the work of 3 office boys. That is more than 3 office boys usually do.



AFRICA IS THE SECOND LARGEST CONTINENT after Asia, and has a population of about 198,000,000. Former French Morocco and Spanish Morocco are now in the process of working out details for uniting under a free government. French Tunisia is also just gaining her freedom. The Union of South Africa is

fully self-governing, but is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations. The Union administers Southwest Africa, a former German colony, and looks upon it as her territory. She strongly resists efforts by the United Nations to have a hand in deciding the future of the former colony.

African Lands

(Continued from page 1)

stricted to a comparatively small region near the equator.

The northern part of the continent consists mainly of the Sahara, a desert larger than the United States. The most populated and fertile areas in this section are along the Mediterranean.

There are also big sandy areas near the southern tip of the continent. Between the desert areas and the equatorial jungles are vast, bush-

covered plains and sizable grasslands. Spectacular scenery may be found. While Africa is generally not a mountainous continent, its highest peak (Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanganyika) is 5,000 feet higher than the loftiest U. S. mountain (California's Mt. Whitney). Even though it lies close to the equator, Kilimanjaro is snow-capped the year round.

The Nile—running the full length of Egypt and Sudan—and the Congo in the heart of the continent are among the world's mightiest rivers. Victoria Falls on the Zambezi River in Rhodesia is twice as high as Niagara. Lake Victoria in Tanganyika

and Uganda is more than 5 times the size of the state of Connecticut.

Who lives on this continent?

About 198,000,000 people live here as compared to 167,000,000 in the United States. Population density is about 17 per square mile as compared to about 56 in this country. Next to Australia, Africa is the most thinly settled of the inhabited continents.

Of the total population, almost 193,000,000 are natives of the continent. North of the Sahara, most people are Arabs. To the south, Negroes are by far the largest group.

About 5,000,000 people of European

descent live in Africa. Those along the shore of the Mediterranean are mostly French. Farther south they are largely British, Dutch, and German.

Who rules Africa?

The continent is broken up for purposes of government into 50 or so areas. They vary in size from French West Africa—about 6 times as big as Texas—to little regions like the British colony of Gambia, about half the size of Massachusetts.

More than half of the continent is ruled by outside powers. France controls about one-third of Africa, and

Britain also governs a large area. Other colonial powers include Belgium, Portugal, and Spain. Several regions once controlled by Germany are supervised by the United Nations.

Countries which are independent include Egypt, Liberia, Ethiopia, Libya, Sudan, Morocco, and Tunisia. The latter 2 countries only recently were granted self-rule by France, and final independence details are still being worked out.

While the Union of South Africa has trade ties with Britain as a member of the Commonwealth, it is completely independent. It is run entirely by the European population, however, with the natives having no share in the government.

Why is this vast region attracting so much attention today?

One must remember that, for centuries, Africa was the least known and the most underdeveloped of the big continents. The native peoples in the lands south of the Sahara lived in a most primitive, tribal manner. They were not even acquainted with such elementary devices as the wedge and the wheel.

Yet today the machine age has burst upon Africa. Tremendous changes are taking place. The continent is awakening from the long sleep of centuries. Factories are rising in areas that were formerly jungles. Natives are coming in contact with a life of which they had never dreamed.

One big factor in opening up Africa is the rising demand for raw materials in industrial lands throughout the world. This continent possesses in abundance many of the materials on which our 20th-century civilization depends. It may well be the greatest source of untapped natural wealth on the entire globe.

Even at present, this continent produces 55 per cent of the world's gold, 22 per cent of its copper, 60 per cent of its uranium, and 98 per cent of its diamonds. Lead, zinc, asbestos, tin, cobalt, iron ore, and bauxite (the raw material of aluminum) are abundantly available.

From Africa, too, come about two-thirds of the world's cocoa and three-fifths of its palm oil. Large amounts of cotton, coffee, tobacco, and sisal (a fiber used in making rope) are grown. There are extensive forests of teak, mahogany, and other woods.

It is the production of raw materials—more than anything else—which is changing the face of Africa today. Factories to process raw materials are beginning to appear. Natives who formerly lived a tribal life are flocking to the towns and cities to work in the mines and factories. Probably close to 40,000,000 Africans have abandoned their forefathers' way of life, and are learning to live like Europeans.

As they take up western ways, many natives are beginning to want to have a bigger voice in their own government. While the idea of self-rule is still foreign to most Africans, nationalism is growing throughout the continent. The idea seems certain to spread as more and more natives exchange ancient living habits for western ways. At the same time, the Africans are beginning to want more education and better living conditions.

How are the colonial rulers reacting to rising nationalism?

The situation varies from area to area. France, for example, has had serious trouble in North Africa.

Recently she granted Morocco and Tunisia independence, but disorders now threaten in Algeria where many natives want to oust the French.

Conditions seem to be more stable in France's holdings south of the Sahara. France does not want the natives to have self-rule. In the effort to discourage them, she offers French citizenship to all Africans in areas she controls. Representatives are sent from the colonial areas to the legislature in Paris. In North Africa, these steps were not enough to satisfy many natives. Whether they will—as time goes on—satisfy the natives in other French-controlled areas remains to be seen.

In British-governed regions, the situation differs greatly. In general, the British are following a policy of training the natives for self-rule. In Nigeria and the Gold Coast, the Africans are expected to achieve their goal within the next year or so. In other regions, progress toward independence is being made at a much slower rate.

For some years the British have had serious troubles in Kenya. A native secret society called the Mau Mau tried to drive white settlers from the country through terrorism and violence. Today Kenya is quieting down once more after firm action by the British against the rebels.

In the Congo, the Belgians are using a still different approach. They feel that if the natives are well cared-for, there will be no demand for self-rule. The Belgians discourage participation

in political matters while supplying jobs with good pay, decent housing, schools, and medical care for the Africans.

As a result, the Congo probably has the highest native living standards south of the Sahara. Many native workers in the cities earn \$100 or more a month. (Though not high by U.S. standards, this wage level is far above that for native labor in other African countries.)

So far, the Belgian plan has kept the Africans satisfied. There is little demand for home-rule. Whether this situation will continue as the natives get more schooling and as nationalism spreads throughout the continent remains to be seen.

Portugal has not done much to develop its holdings. It permits a few natives to have the privileges and duties of Portuguese citizenship.

What is the situation in South Africa?

This wealthy land at the southern tip of the continent is one of Africa's biggest trouble spots. The government is run entirely by people of European descent—who make up about 20 per cent of the total population. Severe restrictions are placed on the natives. The South African government has been accused by India and various other nations of persecuting non-white peoples inside the country.

When the United Nations tried to investigate last year, South Africa refused to cooperate. She argued that

racial matters inside the country were her own business. In protest against "UN interference," the South African delegation walked out of the General Assembly. Later the United Nations dropped the investigation, at least for the time being.

What will happen in South Africa, no one can predict. With its gold, diamond, and uranium mines, it is the richest nation on the continent. It has two-thirds of Africa's railway mileage, and many thriving industries.

Yet no other country has so completely suppressed the natives as South Africa has done. The government's harsh actions have brought much criticism from people in other lands, but these outside protests have had no influence on South Africa's leaders.

What interest does the United States have in Africa?

It is important to us as a source of raw materials. The uranium which powered the first A-bomb dropped on Japan during World War II came from the Belgian Congo. From Nigeria, we secure columbite, a little-known mineral but one that is vitally needed in making jet planes.

Up to 10 per cent of the rubber we consume is produced on plantations in Liberia. Many other of the continent's resources are vital to our industrial strength.

Africa is also important to us in other ways. The air bases which we maintain in North Africa and those available to us in the African holdings of our allies would be invaluable in case of war.

During World War II, the Atlantic route by which we flew many men and countless supplies overseas was from Brazil to Dakar in French West Africa. Should large parts of Africa fall into hostile hands, an enemy attack might be launched against the Western Hemisphere over the same route, only 1,600 miles long. We should consider it a distinct threat if Africa came under the control of an enemy power.

Is communism a serious threat?

At this time, communism—it is generally agreed—has not made strong inroads in Africa. Yet the Soviet Union has recently started to pay more attention to the area. It has offered help to such lands as Egypt and Liberia. Plainly the Reds have their eyes on this continent with its vast undeveloped wealth.

Whether they can take advantage of the rising tide of nationalism remains to be seen. Certainly the poverty and ignorance of most African natives today are conditions on which communism usually thrives. The communists can also be expected to hammer at colonialism as a means of creating continual unrest among the natives and making trouble for the western lands.

What will probably determine the future of communism in Africa is the way that the colonial powers handle the situation. If they do a good job of raising living standards, of supplying schools and hospitals, and of giving the natives a fair deal in working out their future, then the communist challenge will probably be successfully combatted. On the other hand, if they neglect the welfare of the natives and exploit the region mainly for their own profit, the Reds may make gains that will create serious troubles for the free world.

—By HOWARD SWEET



AN AFRICAN GIRL balances a tray of fruit on her head. Carrying food and water in this manner is quite customary in various parts of Africa.



COLLEGE SCIENCE STUDENT in Liberia (left) and instructor. The United Nations helps Liberia and certain other African lands with educational programs.

Career for Tomorrow - - - In Public Service

ARE you one of the thousands of high school students who plan to tour the nation's capital before you get your diploma? If so, you may want to visit the U. S. Civil Service Commission Building which houses the government agency that supervises Uncle Sam's personnel activities.

Philip Young, chairman of the Civil Service Commission, sometimes talks to visiting high school students about careers in government. Mr. Young and his agency are trying to encourage young people with ability to choose a career in public service.

Uncle Sam now has more than 2,350,000 Americans, not counting members of the armed forces, on his payroll. Public employees are drawn from all occupational groups—architects, accountants, carpenters, doctors, nurses, janitors, biologists, and countless others. But there are also career opportunities for persons without advanced vocational training.

For most government jobs, you will be required to take a competitive examination. These exams are open to all citizens. Appointments are made from among persons best qualified for job openings and those receiving the highest grades.

A number of the beginning jobs in public service are open to high school graduates who can do well on the competitive examinations. Many government agencies have special training programs to help ambitious beginners prepare for more responsible posts. Because the government generally follows a policy of promotion

from within, there are good opportunities to move into a better position if you are a willing worker and take advantage of available training programs.

For other government posts, you must choose a specific vocation and prepare for it. If you want to be a



U. S. CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
CHAIRMAN Philip Young of the Civil Service Commission talks about government careers with officers of Frenchtown (New Jersey) High School senior class. Left to right are Lois Johnson, secretary; Beverly Hopcock, treasurer; Walter Blessing, vice president; and Neal Risley, president.

secretary, for instance, take courses in typing and shorthand. If you want to become a meteorologist, take the college courses needed to qualify for work in that field.

Women as well as men, of course, find good positions in government.

Salaries vary for different types of work and depend upon the educa-

tion, training, and skill required for a given job. In most instances, public salaries compare favorably with those in private industry for work requiring a similar amount of experience and training.

In fact, Uncle Sam usually offers somewhat higher pay to beginners than does private industry. The same is frequently true in the case of other positions where incomes run from around \$3,500 to \$12,000 a year.

If you have ability to earn more than \$12,000 a year, however, the chances are that you could do better in private industry than in government. Relatively few men and women in public service make above \$12,000 and none reach the very high incomes that industry sometimes pays.

Advantages enjoyed by civil service employees include steady employment; opportunities for advancement up to a fairly good income level; extra benefits, such as insurance and pension plans.

On the other hand, the opportunity to reach the higher income levels is not as great as it is in private industry. Also, the public employee, particularly if he handles matters of policy, often finds himself the target of criticism.

You can find out more about federal positions by writing to the U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D. C. Specify the kind of job or field in which you are interested. Also, talk with people who hold government positions if you have the opportunity.

—By ANTON BERLE

Historical Background - - - Big Business

THOMAS Jefferson, our third President, spent much of his spare time working as a farmer. He hoped that the United States would always be a land made up largely of "independent and hard-working tillers of the soil."

But before Jefferson's death in 1826, factories were already springing up in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, and other states along the Atlantic coast. Increasing numbers of people began to move from the farms into the growing cities and factory towns.

Along with our rapid industrial growth, there came a host of new problems.

Some of the business leaders in earlier years were looked upon as industrial tyrants. They bought out other firms in their field, or forced them to close down by using various tactics including cutthroat competition. Certain industrial concerns grew large and powerful in this way.

In addition, there were a number of industries which employed men, women, and children at extremely low wages. Some of the firms used forceful methods to prevent workers from combining into unions to improve their lot.

Commenting on the business giants of his time, President Grover Cleveland said in 1888: "We praise the great accomplishments of the new giant corporations. But the citizen is struggling far in the rear or is trampled to death beneath an iron heel. Corporations which should be carefully restrained creatures of the law and

servants of the people are fast becoming the people's masters."

Cleveland, like other Presidents before him, called for government action to check the growing power of big corporations. In 1890, the Sherman Anti-Trust Act was passed by Congress. But after it was enacted, the law was hardly ever used by the government for some years. The reason was this:

Large numbers of Americans knew that, despite certain industrial abuses, the nation was making rapid headway. Business and industrial leaders were given much credit for the country's advances. It was widely felt that government interference with private industry might hold back progress and keep small businesses from growing into big ones—prevent poor peo-

ple from becoming well-to-do.

It wasn't until the administration of Theodore Roosevelt, from 1901 to 1909, that the federal government began to make widespread use of the Sherman Act and other laws for the regulation of certain business activities. By that time, the public widely supported the idea behind the anti-trust legislation. People were still strongly in favor of private enterprise, but most of them now felt that monopolies interfered with such enterprise. So a campaign began then, and still continues, against monopolies.

Meanwhile, the reckless methods of expansion used by certain business firms in the late 1800's and early 1900's were mostly abandoned, and many industrial concerns and leaders undertook a number of humanitarian projects. In 1910, for instance, Andrew Carnegie, who became extremely wealthy in the steel business, provided money for world peace projects, and public libraries.

Exactly 43 years ago, on May 14, 1913, millionaire John D. Rockefeller established the Rockefeller Foundation to fight disease, to promote education, and to carry on many other activities.

Today, most large corporations, such as Ford, General Motors, the United States Steel Corporation, and a host of others, provide funds for college scholarships, health research, and a long list of other worthwhile projects.

Nevertheless, there is still a controversy over whether or not industrial concerns are getting too big (see page 1). —By ANTON BERLE



CARTOONIST, in early 1900's, shows Theodore Roosevelt attacking big trusts

News Quiz

Business Mergers

1. List several reasons why business firms merge.
2. Name at least 2 government agencies that keep an eye on business mergers.
3. Under a proposed law now being studied in Congress, what would be required of companies that intend to unite?
4. How is election-year politics connected with the interest now being shown in the regulation of mergers?
5. Give arguments used by people who think the present merger trend is dangerous.
6. What arguments are put forth by those who disagree with that view?
7. Name at least 2 big concerns that have recently been involved in mergers.

Discussion

Do you or do you not believe that the merger trend is likely to bring too great a concentration of economic and industrial power? Explain your position.

Africa's Progress

1. Briefly describe Africa's geography and the make-up of its population.
2. What countries are independent? Name the European lands with big holdings on the continent.
3. How has the increasing demand for raw materials heightened the importance of Africa?
4. In what ways are the lives of the natives being changed?
5. How are the colonial powers reacting to the natives' desires for more self-rule?
6. Describe the situation in the Union of South Africa.
7. Why is this continent important to the United States?
8. To what extent is communism making headway there?

Discussion

1. Which of the major colonial nations in Africa do you think is employing the wisest approach in ruling native peoples? Give reasons.

2. How do you think communist headway on this continent can most effectively be prevented? Explain.

Miscellaneous

1. In what way has labor leader Walter Reuther helped make friends for America in India?
2. When was the first transatlantic flight made? Who made the first nonstop solo flight across the Atlantic?
3. Where is Liechtenstein? How big a country is it?
4. What is the purpose of Armed Forces Day?
5. Name the group of islands in the Pacific now seeking independence.
6. How does our output of big jet bombers compare with the number believed to be in Russian hands?
7. What trouble recently occurred in Cuba?
8. Describe the locust problem in Saudi Arabia.

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Answers to Your Vocabulary

1. (b) tyrant; 2. (c) absolute; 3. (a) threats; 4. (a) unprejudiced; 5. (c) bearing; 6. (b) interpret; 7. (d) speed up.